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O-Alkylhydroxylamines as Rationally-designed Mechanism-based Inhibitors of Indoleamine 2,3- Dioxygenase-1

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HIGHLIGHTS

- Rational drug design used to discover O-alkylhydroxylamines as IDO1 inhibitors.
- Optimum inhibition with meta-halide substituted benzyl derivatives.
- Heme iron binding of O-alkylhydroxylamines demonstrated.
- Selective inhibition among several heme iron enzymes shown.
- Nanomolar-level potency and limited toxicity in cells.

ABSTRACT Indoleamine 2,3-dioxygenase-1 (IDO1) is a promising therapeutic target for the treatment of cancer, chronic viral infections, and other diseases characterized by pathological immune suppression. Recently important advances have been made in understanding IDO1's catalytic mechanism. Although much remains to be discovered, there is strong evidence that the mechanism proceeds through a heme-iron bound alkylperoxy transition or intermediate state. Accordingly, we explored stable structural mimics of the alkylperoxy species and provide evidence that such structures do mimic the alkylperoxy transition or intermediate state. We discovered that O-benzylhydroxylamine, a commercially available compound, is a potent sub-micromolar inhibitor of IDO1. Structure-activity studies of over forty derivatives of O-benzylhydroxylamine led to further improvement in inhibitor potency, particularly with the addition of halogen atoms to the meta position of the aromatic ring. The most potent derivatives and the lead, O-benzylhydroxylamine, have high ligand efficiency values, which are considered an important criterion for successful drug development. Notably, two of the most potent compounds demonstrated nanomolar-level cell-based potency and limited toxicity. The combination of the simplicity of the structures of these compounds and their excellent cellular activity makes them quite attractive for biological exploration of IDO1 function and antitumor therapeutic applications.

Keywords: IDO1 inhibition, O-alkylhydroxylamines, antitumor therapy, rational drug design

Abbreviations: IDO1, indoleamine 2,3-dioxygenase isoform-1; Trp, tryptophan; UV-vis; ultraviolet-visible; CYP3A4, cytochrome P-450 isoform 3A4.

Introduction

Immune escape by tumors is a fundamental aspect of disease progression resulting from immunoediting of tumors as they interact with the host immune system^{1,2}. Key to this process from a therapeutic standpoint is that tumors are selected to engender a tolerogenic microenvironment that actively suppresses the ability of the immune system to mount an effective response³. Ongoing progress in understanding the cellular and molecular mechanisms that govern the pathological state of tumor immune tolerance has revealed several protein targets which provide the potential for therapeutic intervention⁴. One central player is the immunomodulatory enzyme indoleamine 2,3-dioxygenase, IDO1, formerly known as IDO before the discovery of a second isoform^{5,6}. IDO1 can contribute to immune escape when expressed directly in tumor cells or when expressed in immunosuppressive antigen presenting cells such as tolerogenic dendritic cells or tumor associated macrophages^{7,8}. For both cases, experimental results suggest that IDO1 inhibition may restore an effective antitumor immune response and thus provide a method to treat malignant diseases in combination with chemotherapeutic agents and/or immunotherapy-based strategies⁹. In fact, there are currently three drugs in clinical trials testing IDO1 inhibition as a strategy for the treatment of cancer¹⁰. Clearly there is an interest and a need for further development of potent IDO1 inhibitors to adequately address this therapeutic opportunity^{11,12}.

IDO1 is an extrahepatic, tryptophan (Trp) metabolizing enzyme,¹³⁻¹⁵ which catalyzes the initial and rate-limiting step along the kynurenine pathway. The oxidative metabolism of Trp by IDO1 involves the coordination of molecular oxygen to a ferrous heme iron and its subsequent addition across the C-2/C-3 bond of the indole ring. Two alkylperoxy transition or intermediate states resulting from dioxygen

insertion to C-2 or C-3 carbon of the indole ring (Figure 1, compound **1** and **2**) have been proposed^{13,16-18}. Here we sought to rationally design a new family of IDO1 inhibitors by mimicking the alkylperoxy species as illustrated in Figure 1, in which one oxygen atom of the peroxo moiety is substituted with an electronegative atom, N (compound **3**). To simplify compound **3**, the alkylperoxy moiety is further reduced to Ar-C-X-Y, where Ar is an aryl ring and C is a linker containing a carbon moiety (such as methylene or carbonyl). In related work, two previously reported IDO1 inhibitors in the scientific literature demonstrate a similar theme in their inhibitor design: The hydroxyamidines reported in 2009 by Incyte¹⁹ and the recent report of alkylhydrazine derivative inhibitory activity by Ching et al.²⁰. Neither of these reports discussed the potential mimicry of the proposed alkylperoxy intermediate or related rational design idea. Contemporaneous with our studies, O-alkylhydroxylamine IDO1 inhibitors were reported in the patent literature by NewLink Genetics²¹. With the rise of chemical library screening for drug lead development, mechanism-based rational drug design ideas are less frequently used, but the current work illustrates there is still merit in their use as they proved a simple and efficient way to identify a new IDO1 inhibitor lead.

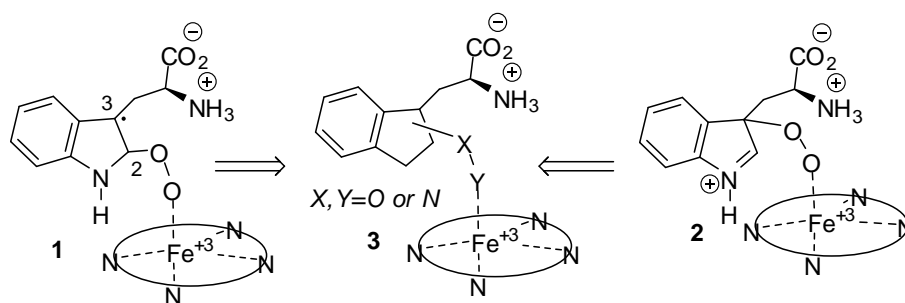


Figure 1. Proposed Alkylperoxy Transition or Intermediate State of IDO1 (**1** and **2**) and Their Mimic (**3**).

Results and Discussion

Discovery of New Structural Class of IDO1 Inhibitors. To explore this rational drug design idea, we screened commercially available compounds with a general structure of Ar-X-Y or Ar-C-X-Y (Table 1). Gratifyingly, a screen of a few dozen commercial compounds yielded several micromolar or sub-micromolar potency molecules. Similar to the recent report from the Ching group²⁰,

phenylhydrazine was found to be a highly potent inhibitor of IDO1. This is not surprising since phenylhydrazine has been found to interact with other heme-containing proteins, such as hemoglobin,²² cytochrome P450,²³ catalase²⁴ and myoglobin²⁵. In fact, phenylhydrazine can be oxidized by heme iron to generate phenyl radicals that can subsequently react to covalently modify the heme prosthetic group²⁶. Although we did not see any signs of irreversible inhibition by phenylhydrazine, we chose to focus our efforts on O-benzylhydroxylamine, the second best inhibitor with an IC₅₀ of 0.90 μ M, as we were more interested in developing a reversible inhibitor of IDO1. Nonetheless, all the compounds in Table 1 represent a new class of IDO1 inhibitors: alkylperoxy mimics. The therapeutic potential of IDO1 inhibition, as well as the commercial availability and sub-micromolar level potency of these compounds, made this discovery an important opportunity. Our efforts at developing peroxy structural mimics, in particular, optimizing the O-alkylhydroxylamine structural class, are described below.

Table 1. IC₅₀ of Commercially Available Ar-X-Y or Ar-C-X-Y Compounds^a

Compound Structure	IC ₅₀ (μ M)
Ph-NH-NH ₂	0.23 \pm 0.25
Ph-CH ₂ -O-NH ₂	0.81 \pm 0.081
Ph-CH ₂ -NH-OH	6.0
Ph-NH-OH	9.2
Ph-C(=O)-NH-OH	16
Ph-CH ₂ -NH-NH ₂	71

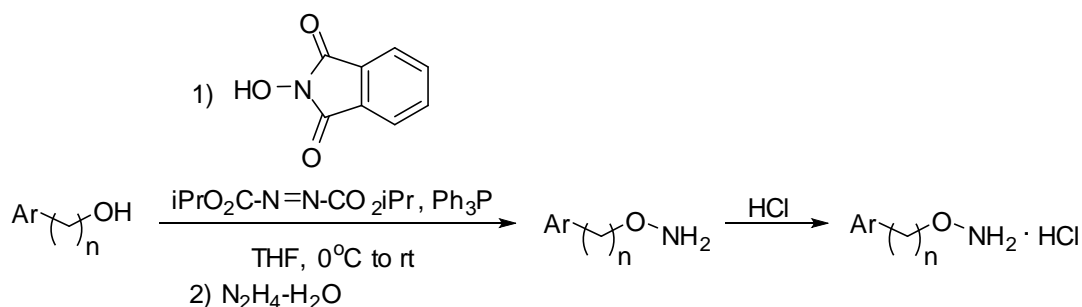
^a IC₅₀ values are based on single point inhibition curves run once for each compound, but repeated 2x for the most potent compounds (initial IC₅₀ values below 1.0 μ M). These results are reported as the averages \pm SD.

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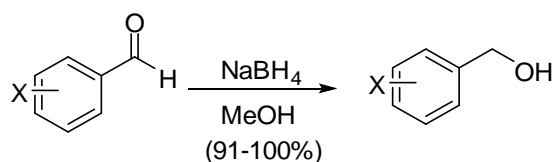
The O-alkylhydroxylamine derivatives were synthesized from the analogous alcohol through a one pot process involving the Mitsunobu reaction with N-hydroxyphthalimide²⁷ and subsequent deprotection of the phthalimide group with hydrazine (Scheme 1)²⁸. The O-alkyl hydroxylamines were purified and

isolated as their hydrochloride salts. Alcohols that were not commercially available were synthesized via reduction of the appropriate aldehyde with NaBH₄ (Scheme 2).

Scheme 1. Mitsunobu Reaction to Convert Alcohols to O-Alkyl Hydroxylamines



Scheme 2. Synthesis of Monoaryl Alcohols



Results and Discussion

IDO1 Inhibition by O-Alkylhydroxylamines.

In an effort to further optimize the O-benzylhydroxylamine lead, we explored two general modifications of the O-benzylhydroxylamine structure: (1) alteration of the carbon linker between the aryl ring and the hydroxylamine group; (2) substitution of the aryl ring (Figure 2).

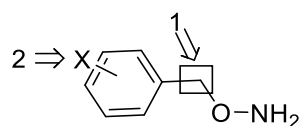
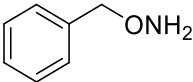
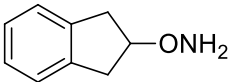
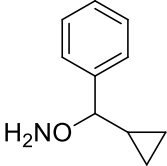
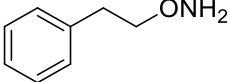
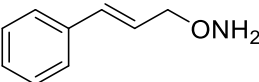
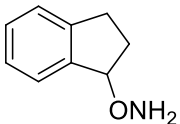
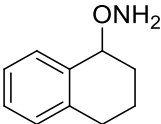
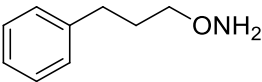


Figure 2. Two Modifications of O-Benzylhydroxylamine Lead Compound

Alternation of the carbon linker between the aryl ring and the peroxy mimic moiety

Linker length and flexibility was explored with the compounds shown in Table 2. It quickly became clear that any modifications made to the carbon linker in the lead compound resulted in a dramatic decrease in inhibitor potency. Attempts at rigidifying the hydroxylamine moiety in the benzylic position (compounds **3**, **4** and **6**) were unsuccessful as well.

Table 2. Inhibition Data for Monoaryl Hydroxylamines with Various Linkers between the Aryl and the Hydroxylamine Group^a

Compd	Structure	IC ₅₀ (μM)	Compd	Structure	IC ₅₀ (μM)
Lead		0.81±0.081	4		10
1		5.2	5		20
2		7.1	6		26
3		10	7		82

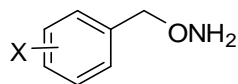
^a IC₅₀ values are based on single point inhibition curves run once for each compound except for the lead compound which was repeated 2x. These results are reported as the average ± SD.

Substitution of the Aryl Ring

Derivatization of the O-benzylhydroxylamines via substitution on the aromatic ring initially explored potential interactions with the amino acid residues located in the active site (C129, S167, Y126) by adding hydrogen donating or accepting substitutions to the phenyl ring. Previous work from our laboratory had successfully exploited these interactions in the optimization of the phenyl-imidazole structural series²⁹. However, addition of a hydroxyl group at the *ortho* (**29**) or *para* (**31**) position substantially reduced inhibition (Table 3). Likewise, *ortho*, *meta*, or *para*- substitution with a methoxy also proved deleterious (**24**, **26** and **30**). Halogen substitution was the only successful modification that increased inhibitor potency, which contrasts with the results of the phenyl-imidazole study²⁹. Addition of iodine, bromine, chlorine or trifluoromethyl substituents to either *ortho*, *meta* or *para* positions of O-benzylhydroxylamine (**8-15**) proved beneficial with the greatest gain in IDO1 inhibitor potency seen with halogens in the *meta* position. In contrast to other halogen substitutions, the more electronegative

fluorine containing inhibitors (**15**, **16** and **18**) were essentially equipotent or slightly less potent than the lead.

Table 3. Inhibition Data for Monoaryl Hydroxylamines with Ring Substitution^a



Compd	X	IC ₅₀ (μM)	Compd	X	IC ₅₀ (μM)	Compd	X	IC ₅₀ (μM)
8	4-I	0.22± 0.066	16	3-F	1.0	24	2-OCH ₃	5.4
9	3-Cl	0.30± 0.015	17	4-Cl	1.3	25	4-CF ₃	8.9
10	3-Br	0.32± 0.042	18	2-F	1.4	26	3-OCH ₃	9.5
11	3-I	0.34± 0.12	19	4-Br	1.6	27	4-Ph	12
12	3-CF ₃	0.41	20	2-Br	1.6	28	4-CH(CH ₃) ₂	15
13	2-I	0.57	21	2-CF ₃	2.5	29	2-OH	19
14	2-Cl	0.63	22	3-CH ₃	2.7	30	4-OCH ₃	24
Lead	H	0.81±0.081	23	4-NO ₂	2.7	31	4-OH	61
15	4-F	0.98						

^a IC₅₀ values are based on single point inhibition curves run once for each compound, but repeated at least 2x for the most potent compounds (initial IC₅₀ values below 0.4 μM). These results are reported as the averages ± SD.

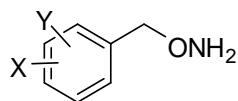
The benefits of halogen aromatic substitution have been recognized before in several previous reports of structure-activity relationship studies^{19,30-35}. There are three potential explanations for the benefits of halogen substitution: Favorable pi stacking interactions between the halo-aromatics and aromatic amino acid side chains in the IDO1 active site; halogen bonding between the halogen atoms of the inhibitor and Lewis basic sites in the IDO1 active site³⁶; or beneficial hydrophobic interactions between the halogen and a complementary pocket in the active site. Favorable pi stacking interactions between the three relatively more electron rich Phe residues (F163, 164 and 226) in the active site and the electron poor halo-aromatic pi systems in the inhibitors would benefit binding. Contradicting that assessment

would be the fluorobenzene derivatives (**15**, **16**, and **18**) which afforded inhibition essentially equivalent to the lead, O-benzylhydroxylamine, or slightly less potent. The weaker activity of the fluorine substitutions versus the chlorine, bromine and iodine would be consistent with halogen bonding events since fluorine is too electronegative and has too small a sigma hole for effective halogen bonding^{37,38}. A more traditional explanation of simple favorable hydrophobic interactions by the halogens seems less likely due to the weaker activity seen with 3-methyl (**22**) and 4-isopropyl (**28**), which are considered roughly isosteric with chlorine and iodine respectively³⁹.

Disubstitution of the Aryl Ring

Synergistic effects of multiple substituents were also explored with a particular focus on maximizing the halogen benefits. However, as depicted in Table 4, minimal additive effects were observed when combining beneficial substitutions from the monoaryl system. None of the disubstituted derivatives was more potent than the most potent monosubstituted derivatives, i.e. the C-3 substituted compounds.

Table 4. Inhibition Data for Monoaryl Hydroxylamines with Ring Disubstitution^a



Compd	R	IC ₅₀ (μM)	Compd	R	IC ₅₀ (μM)	Compd	R	IC ₅₀ (μM)
32	2,3-Cl ₂	0.45	37	3,5-Cl ₂	0.90	42	2-CF ₃ , 4-F	2.4
33	3-CF ₃ , 4-Cl	0.49	38	2-F, 4-CF ₃	1.1	43	3,5-F ₂	3.4
34	2-F, 5-CF ₃	0.57	39	2,4-F ₂	1.4	44	3,5-Br ₂	4.2
35	2,4-Cl ₂	0.63	40	2,5-(OCH ₃) ₂	1.7	45	3,5-(CF ₃) ₂	4.6
36	2-Cl, 4-I	0.73	41	3,4-Cl ₂	2.1	46	2-OH, 3-OCH ₃	55
Lead	H	0.81±0.081						

^a IC₅₀ values are based on single point inhibition curves run once for each compound.

Spectroscopic Analysis of Monoaryl Hydroxylamine Binding

Given the perplexing results, especially the contradictions with the phenyl-imidazole work, we further explored the binding mechanism of the monoaryl hydroxylamines, including the lead compound, a monosubstituted derivative (**8**) and a disubstituted derivative (**40**), by UV-Vis absorption spectroscopic studies. As shown in Figure 3B, in the absence of inhibitors, the deoxy ferrous enzyme exhibits Soret and Q band at 427 and 556 nm, characteristic for a typical five-coordinate high-spin heme species. Binding of the lead compound, **8** and **40**, led to shift of the Soret band to 419-421 nm, and the appearance of two new Q bands at 531/556 nm, characteristic of a six-coordinate low-spin species, indicating the coordination of the monoaryl hydroxylamines to the heme iron, possibly via the amine group. Although definitive proof of the coordination of the amine group to the heme iron requires further studies, the result strongly supports the proposed mimicry of the alkylperoxy transition or intermediate state by the monoaryl hydroxylamines.

In addition to the deoxy enzyme, we also studied inhibitor binding to the CO-bound ferrous enzyme, where CO was used as a surrogate for O₂. The CO-bound IDO1 exhibits Soret and Q band at 421 and 538/568 nm, typical for a CO bound six-coordinate low-spin heme species (Figure 3C). The addition of the lead compound resulted in a spectrum similar to that of the inhibitor-bound deoxy species shown in (B), indicating that inhibitor binding prevents CO binding to the heme iron. In contrast, the addition of **8** or **40** led to a spectrum, consistent with a mixture of inhibitor-bound deoxy spectrum (B) and CO-bound spectrum (C), indicating that inhibitor binding partially prevents CO binding to the heme iron. Comparative studies suggested that the affinity of these inhibitors towards the ferric enzyme (Figure 3A) is much weaker than the ferrous enzyme.

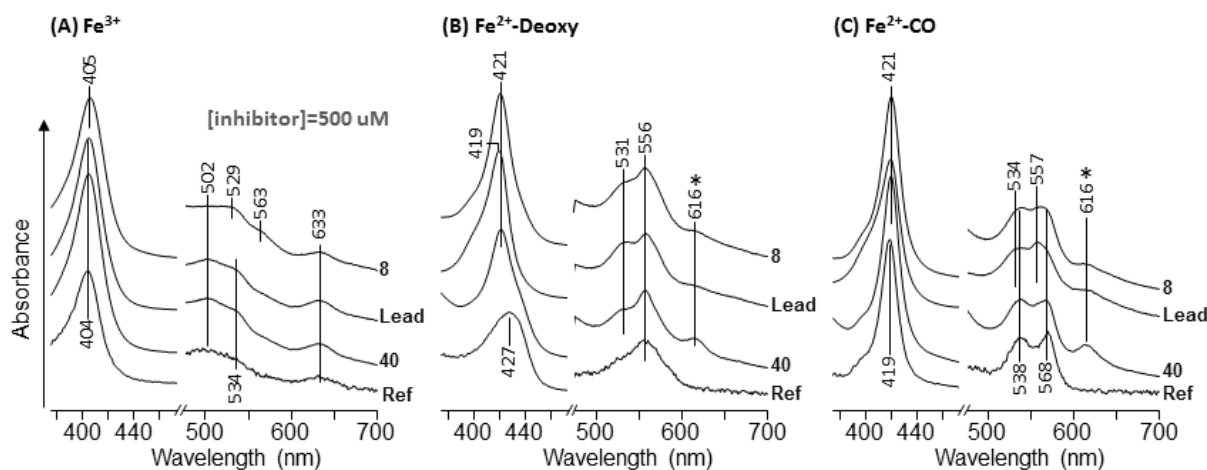


Figure 3. Absorption spectra of ferric (A), deoxy ferrous (B) and CO-bound (C) IDO1 in the presence of 500 μ M inhibitors. Ref spectra were obtained in the absence of inhibitors. The 616 nm band labeled with an asterisk is of unknown origin.

Modeling of Monoaryl Hydroxylamine Binding to Guide Drug Development

With confirmation that the monoaryl hydroxylamine compounds inhibit IDO1 by coordinating to the heme iron, we then turned to docking studies using Gold (v5.1) to determine their potential binding modes (Figure 4). Unsubstituted monoaryl inhibitor, O-benzylhydroxylamine, was predicted to have two equally plausible binding modes: in the interior of the cavity near residues F163 and S167, or in the entrance of the cavity between residues F226 and the heme propionate group. *Ortho*-substituted inhibitors (C-2 substitution, Figure 5) were predicted to bind in the back of the cavity (blue structure in Figure 4), while the *para*-substituted inhibitors (C-4 substitution, Figure 5) appeared to preferentially bind in the cavity entrance (magenta structure in Figure 4). The two outliers to this trend were compound **29** (2-OH) and compound **31** (4-OH). For compound **31**, docking predicted the formation of a hydrogen bond with the S167 in the back of the cavity, while for compound **29** docking suggested hydrogen bonding with the heme propionate in the front of the cavity. Nonetheless, assessment of the inhibition data does not support that either of these predicted hydrogen bonds enhance the binding affinity in comparison with the halogenated derivatives; this stands in contrast to earlier reported hydroxyl-substituted 4-phenyl-imidazole inhibitors²⁹. Docking of the *meta* substituted analogs to IDO1,

however, did not define a consistent binding mode as the aryl ring could be equally positioned either in the back or the entrance of the cavity (C-3 substitution, Figure 5).

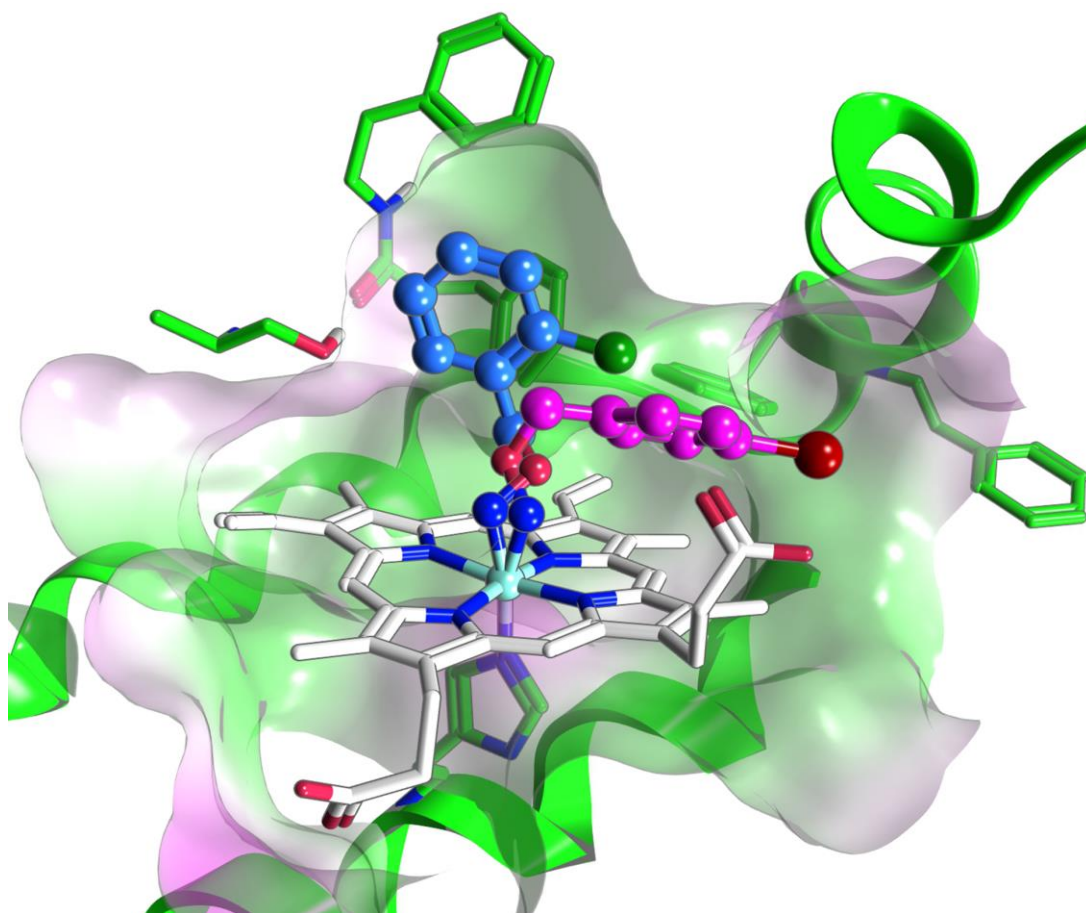


Figure 4. Compounds **8** and **14** Docked in the IDO1 Active Site. Compound **14** (blue; chlorine atom green) binds in the interior of the active site, while **8** (magenta; iodine atom red) prefers to bind in the active site entrance when docked. The heme is shown in white and the green represents active site structure of IDO1.

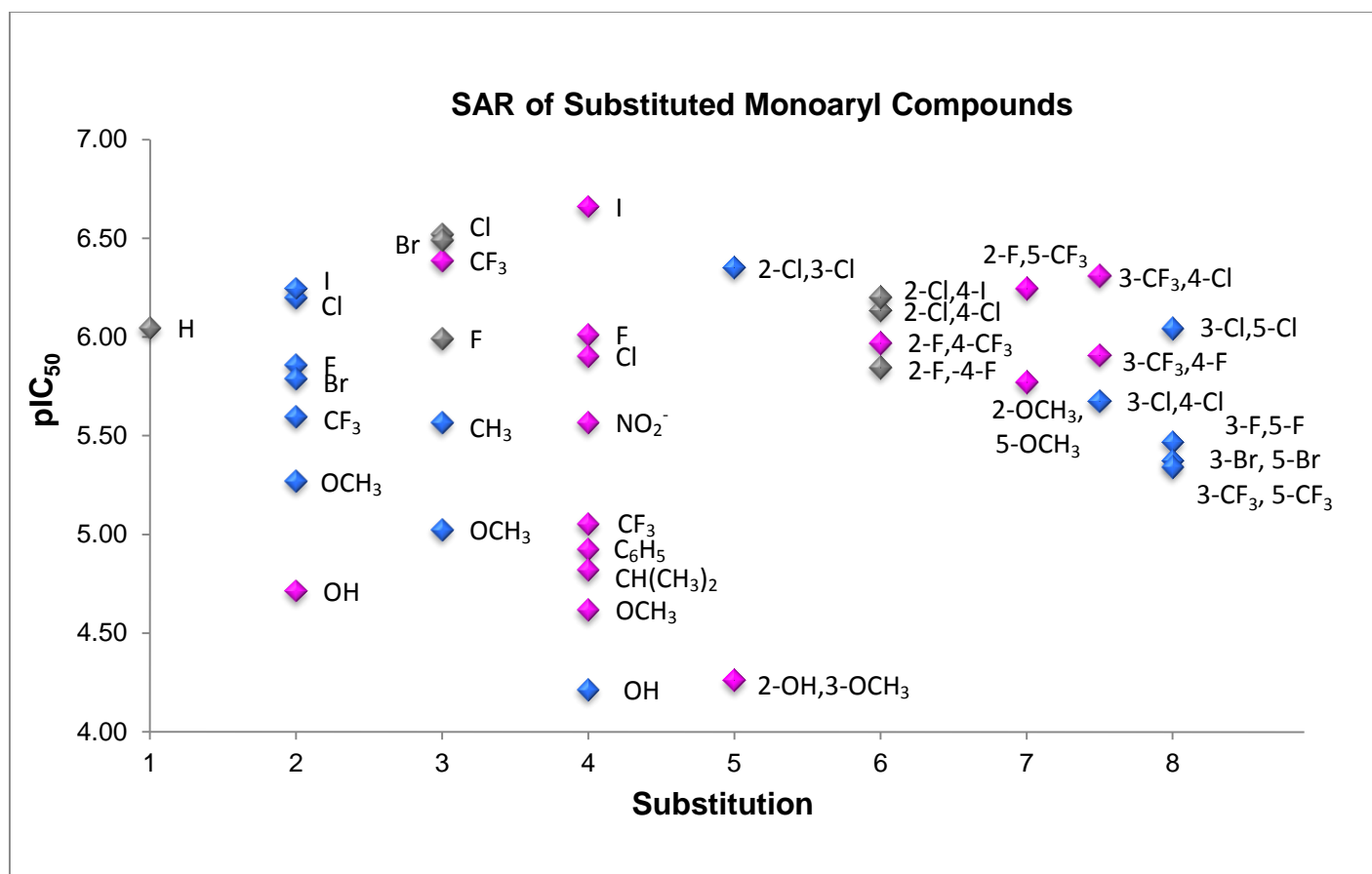


Figure 5. Structure-Activity Relationships (SAR) of Substituted Monoaryl Hydroxylamines with Predicted Binding Mode. Plot of pIC₅₀ values for the substituted hydroxylamine compounds. The x-axis lists the substitution number on the phenyl ring with disubstituted represented by the sum of the two numbers. The data points are colored based on docked binding mode in the back (blue), front (pink) or either location (gray) of the IDO1 active site.

Detailed Enzyme Inhibition Studies

As further confirmation of the inhibitory characteristics of the hydroxylamine structural class, inhibitory constants (K_i) were determined for two of the most potent hydroxylamine inhibitors. Analysis showed K_i values of 164 and 154 nM for two O-alkylhydroxylamines, **8** and **9**, respectively. These potency values yield ligand efficiencies of 0.93 for both compounds^{40, 41, 42}. Given the strong correlation between successful drugs and high ligand efficiencies, the O-alkylhydroxylamines represent a promising class of IDO1 inhibitors⁴³. Based on Lineweaver-Burk graphical analysis, both molecules demonstrated

an uncompetitive mode of inhibition. Additionally, it was determined that inhibition of IDO1 activity by these two compounds was reversible and appeared to be the result of one-to-one interaction between the O-alkylhydroxylamine inhibitor and IDO1 based on dose-response studies. Details of the procedures and graphs for these studies can be found in the Supplementary Data section (see Figures S1-S3). An uncompetitive mode of inhibition would seem inconsistent with the demonstrated binding at the heme iron from the spectroscopic studies. However, 4-phenylimidazole has been crystallized in IDO1 bound to the heme iron⁴⁴ and it demonstrates noncompetitive inhibition⁴⁵. Furthermore, 4-phenylimidazole derivatives have also demonstrated an uncompetitive inhibition mode²⁹ and presumably they are also binding at the IDO1 active site, in direct competition with the Trp binding location. Therefore, uncompetitive or non-competitive inhibition mode does not preclude binding in the active site or to the heme iron. One explanation for such behavior is that the inhibitors are actually in direct competition for binding at the heme iron with the other substrate in the reaction, oxygen. In an assay that modifies the concentration of tryptophan, an inhibitor that competes with oxygen would likely afford an uncompetitive inhibition mode.

Selectivity Studies

The simplicity of the O-alkylhydroxylamines makes concerns about their selectivity warranted, especially given their primary mechanism of attraction to IDO1, heme iron binding. To analyze the selectivity of two of the top compounds, **8** and **9**, two additional heme iron containing enzymes, catalase and CYP3A4, were screened for inhibition. As noted in Table 5, neither **8** nor **9** showed inhibition of catalase; perhaps this is not surprising given catalase's small natural substrate, hydrogen peroxide, however, this result does demonstrate that the inhibitory activity of these compounds is not attributable to an indirect effect on the catalase in the reaction mixture that is required to protect IDO1 from oxidative damage. CYP3A4 was inhibited at the low micromolar level by both **8** and **9**. However, this is still 22- and 48-fold less potent than IDO1 based on the IC₅₀ values for **8** and **9**, respectively. This suggests that the O-alkylhydroxylamines are selective, but they do demonstrate some promiscuity and as studies advance, they will need to be closely monitored for off-target activity.

Table 5. Inhibition of catalase and CYP3A4 by **8** and **9**

Compound	IDO1	Catalase		CYP3A4	
	IC ₅₀ (μM)	IC ₅₀ (μM)	Fold Δ	IC ₅₀ (μM)	Fold Δ
8	0.33	> 100	> 300	7.2	22
9	0.31	> 100	> 320	15	48

Cell-based Assays

To assess the therapeutic potential of the hydroxylamine structural class, two of the most potent compounds, **8** and **9**, were tested for cell-based activity in two cell systems: HeLa, expressing native human IDO1 induced with IFN γ , and Trex, expressing recombinant human IDO1 induced with doxycycline (Table 7; graphs found in Supplementary Data, Figure S4). Both compounds demonstrated nanomolar level activity in both the HeLa and Trex cell lines. Compounds **8** and **9** were more potent in the cell-based assay than in the isolated enzyme assay. Although such a result is generally considered inconsistent with normal drug activity, this irregularity has been seen repeatedly with IDO1 studies^{19,46} and has been attributed to deficiencies in the isolated enzyme assay, and specifically problems with controlling IDO1 redox activity.

Table 7. IDO1 IC₅₀ values in HeLa and Trex cell-based assays

Compound	HeLa (μM) ^a	Trex (μM) ^b
8	0.10 ± 0.024	0.18
9	0.14 ± 0.023	0.077

^aHeLa assay results are the averages of three runs with standard deviations

^bTrex assay was a single run

Cytotoxicity studies with HeLa cells also demonstrated good cell viability up to concentrations of 100 μM of **8** and **9** (see Supplementary Data, Figure S4). Assessment of impact of human serum protein binding indicated a substantial reduction in inhibitory activity for one of the compounds, **8**, while the

inhibitory activity of **9** was relatively unaffected (see Supplementary Data, Figure S5). This analysis indicates that it should be possible to develop O-alkylhydroxylamine inhibitors that are not unduly compromised by serum protein binding.

Cumulatively, the cell-based potency and the cytotoxicity studies dramatically illustrate the therapeutic potential for the hydroxylamines. To the best of our knowledge, there are only two other structural classes reported to date with similar nanomolar-level cell-based potency^{19,32,33,46} and both of these have been developed for clinical evaluation.

Conclusion

A new structural class of IDO1 inhibitors, O-alkylhydroxylamines, has been discovered. The parent compound, O-benzylhydroxylamine, exhibits sub-micromolar inhibition and, unlike many similarly potent IDO1 inhibitors, is an inexpensive, commercially available compound. Structure-activity studies of the O-benzylhydroxylamine lead have explored the chemical space around this structure and led to some modest improvements in potency. Halogenation of the aromatic ring was particularly successful in improving potency. Spectroscopic studies have shown that the O-alkylhydroxylamine compounds coordinate to the heme iron, which provide preliminary support for these compounds as alkylperoxy transition or intermediate state mimics. More importantly, among the strongest enzymatic inhibitors in the O-alkylhydroxylamine class, two exhibited submicromolar cell-based potency with minimal toxicity. With ligand efficiencies of 0.9, these compounds hold significant promise as therapeutic tools. Translating enzymatic potency to cell-based potency has been a major roadblock to inhibitor development for other structural classes such as the naphthoquinones⁴⁷. Furthermore, two O-alkylhydroxylamine derivatives, **8** and **9**, demonstrated exceptional potency on par with the two compounds INCB024360⁴⁸ and NLG919⁴⁹ that are currently being evaluated in clinical trials. Given the exciting potential of these rather simple molecules to meet the burgeoning interest in IDO1 inhibition for both biological investigations of the kynurenine pathway and therapeutic applications, we believe that the O-alkyl hydroxylamines will be a useful structural class of inhibitors.

Experimental Section

Chemical synthesis.

General Procedures.

All reactants and reagents were commercially available and were used without further purification unless otherwise indicated. Anhydrous THF was freshly distilled from Na and benzophenone. All reactions were carried out under an inert atmosphere of argon or nitrogen unless otherwise indicated. Concentrated refers to the removal of solvent with a rotary evaporator at normal water aspirator pressure followed by further evacuation with a direct-drive rotary vane vacuum pump. Thin layer chromatography was performed using silica gel 60 Å precoated glass or aluminum backed plates (0.25 mm thickness) with fluorescent indicator, which were cut. Developed TLC plates were visualized with UV light (254 nm), iodine, p-anisaldehyde or ninhydrin. Flash column chromatography was conducted with the indicated solvent system using normal phase silica gel 60 Å, 230-400 mesh. Yields refer to chromatographically and spectroscopically pure (>95%) compounds except as otherwise indicated. Melting points were determined using an open capillary and are uncorrected. ^1H NMR spectra were recorded at 400 MHz and ^{13}C NMR spectra were recorded at 100 MHz. Chemical shifts are reported in δ values (ppm) relative to an internal reference (0.05% v/v) of tetramethylsilane (TMS, 0.0) for ^1H NMR and the CD_3OD solvent peak (49.0) for ^{13}C NMR. Peak splitting patterns in the ^1H NMR are reported as follows: s, singlet; d, doublet; t, triplet; q, quartet; m, multiplet; br, broad. The attached proton test (APT) experiment was conducted for ^{13}C NMR analysis; methylene and quaternary carbons were identified as negative peaks, while methyl and methine had positive peaks. HPLC was conducted on an Agilent 1100 with an Ascentis Express C-18 column (100 x 4.6 mm, 2.7 μm) and a mobile phase of 80:20 MeCN:H₂O. GC analyses were performed on the free hydroxylamine with an EI-MS detector fitted with a 30 m x 0.25 mm column filled with cross-linked 5% PH ME siloxane (0.25 μm film thickness); gas pressure 7.63 psi He. Analysis of samples involved heating from 70 to 250°C (10°C/min) and finally holding at 250°C for 7 min. The free hydroxylamine compounds were generated

by treating the hydrochloride salts with saturated NaHCO_3 and extracting with EtOAc. All compounds were found to be >95% purity by elemental analysis, GC, or HPLC as indicated.

General Synthesis of O-Alkyl Hydroxylamines.

To a solution of alcohol (1 mmol) in freshly distilled THF (5 ml) was added triphenylphosphine (1.1 mmol) and N-hydroxylphthalimide (1.1 mmol). After the solution was cooled to 0°C diisopropylazodicarboxylate (1.1 mmol) was added dropwise. The solution was allowed to warm to room temperature over 3 hours. Reaction progress was monitored by TLC (1:1 heptanes:ethyl acetate). Hydrazine monohydrate (1.1 mmol) was then added and the solution was allowed to stir for 30 min. The resulting reaction mixture was filtered to remove the white precipitate. The filtrate was concentrated and subjected to flash chromatography (1:1 heptanes/ethyl acetate). The resulting product was dissolved in ether and treated with HCl (2.0 M solution in ether) to afford the HCl salt of the O-alkylhydroxylamine. Contaminating diisopropyl hydrazinodicarboxylate could be washed away from the HCl salt with dichloromethane.

O-(α -Cyclopropyl)benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride (1). Synthesized from α -cyclopropyl benzyl alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **1** as white crystals in 96% yield. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 7.46-7.41 (br s, 5H, ArH), 4.86 (s, 1H, ArCH, $J=8$ Hz), 1.36-1.29 (m, 1H, ArCH(ONH_2)CH), 0.87-0.81 (m, 1H, CH_2), 0.65-0.57 (m, 2H, CH_2), 0.36-0.31 (m, 1H, CH_2). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 138.36, 130.66, 130.19, 128.63, 92.98, 16.05, 6.14, 2.64. Anal. calcd. for $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{14}\text{ClNO}$: C= 60.15; H=7.07; N=7.01. Found: C=60.05%, H = 7.35%, N =6.91%.

O-(3-Phenyl-2-propenyl)-1-hydroxylamine hydrochloride (2). Synthesized from 3-phenyl-2-propen-1-ol according to the general procedure to afford **2** as white crystals in 90% yield. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 7.53-7.47 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.34-7.29 (m, 3H, ArH), 6.85 (d, 1H, ArCH, $J=16$ Hz) 6.40-6.33 (m, 1H, ArCHCH), 4.69 (dd, 2H, ArCHCH CH_2 , $J=6.9, 1.1$ Hz). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 139.57, 137.10, 129.93, 129.88, 128.13, 121.47, 77.00. Anal. calcd. for $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{12}\text{ClNO}$: C, 58.23; H, 6.52; N, 7.54 Found: C=58.71, H = 6.95, N =7.49.

O-(1,2,3,4-Tetrahydro-1-naphthalene)-hydroxylamine hydrochloride (**3**). Synthesized from 1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-1-naphthalenol according to the general procedure to afford **3** in 62% yield as white crystals. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 7.40 (d, 1H, ArH, *J*=8 Hz), 7.31 (t, 1H, ArH, *J*=4 Hz), 7.25-7.17 (m, 2H, ArH), 5.14 (t, 1H, ArCH, *J*=2 Hz), 2.90-2.75 (m, 2H, ArCH₂), 2.32-2.27 (m, 1H, ArCH₂CH₂), 2.01-1.94 (m, 2H, ArCH₂CH₂CH₂), 1.87-1.81 (m, 1H, ArCH₂CH₂). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 139.93, 132.27, 131.63, 130.44, 130.33, 127.16, 82.10, 29.55, 27.51, 18.67. Anal. calcd. for C₁₀H₁₄ClNO: C=60.15; H=7.07; N=7.01. Found: C=60.13, H=7.34, N=6.91.

O-(2,3-Dihydro-1H-inden-2-yl)-hydroxylamine hydrochloride (**4**). Synthesized from 2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-2-ol according to the general procedure to afford **4** as white crystals in 81% yield. Mp=132-133.5°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 7.29-7.25 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.22-7.18 (m, 2H, ArH), 5.07-5.02 (m, 1H, ArCH₂CH), 3.37 (d, 1H, ArCHCH₂, *J*=4 Hz), 3.33 (d, 1H, ArCHCH₂, *J*=4 Hz), 3.19 (d, 1H, ArCHCH₂, *J*=4 Hz), 3.15 (d, 1H, ArCHCH₂, *J*=4 Hz). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 139.18, 126.73, 124.25, 86.05, 37.65. GC *t*_R = 3.182 min.

O-Phenethylhydroxylamine hydrochloride (**5**). Synthesized from phenethyl alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **5** as white crystals in 56% yield. Mp = 110-111°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 7.28-7.21 (m, 5H, ArH), 4.25 (t, 2H, ArCH₂, *J*=8 Hz), 2.98 (t, 2H, ArCH₂CH₂, *J*=8 Hz). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 139.28, 129.97, 129.61, 127.83, 76.86, 35.08. Anal. calcd. for C₈H₁₁NO·0.9375 HCl: C=56.07, H=7.03, N=8.06. Found: C=55.88%, H=6.56%, N=8.08%.

O-(2,3-Dihydro-1H-inden-1-yl)hydroxylamine (**6**). Synthesized from 2,3-dihydro-1H-inden-ol according to the general procedure to afford **6** as white crystals in 78% yield. Mp=150.5-152°C. ¹H NMR (CD₃OD) δ 7.49 (d, 1H, ArH, *J*=8 Hz), 7.40-7.33 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.30-7.26 (m, 1H, ArH), 5.59 (d, 2H, CHONH₂, *J*=4 Hz), 3.18-3.10 (m, 1H, ArCH₂), 2.96-2.89 (m, 1H, ArCH₂), 2.48-2.39 (m, 1H, ArCH₂CH₂), 2.36-2.31 (m, 1H, ArCH₂CH₂). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 146.69, 139.10, 131.42, 127.95, 127.02, 126.28, 90.29, 31.90, 30.83. GC *t*_R = 6.781 min.

O-(3-Phenylpropyl)-hydroxylamine hydrochloride (**7**). Synthesized from 3-phenylpropanol according to the general procedure to afford **7** as white crystals in 95% yield. Mp=168-169°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 7.33-7.25 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.21-7.13 (m, 3H, ArH), 4.02 (t, 2H, CH₂ONH₂, J=8 Hz), 2.72 (t, 2H, ArCH₂, J=8 Hz), 2.03-1.96 (m, 2H, ArCH₂CH₂). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 142.15, 129.66, 129.51, 127.33, 75.63, 32.63, 30.57. GC t_R = 6.425 min.

4-(Iodobenzyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (**8**). Synthesized from 4-iodobenzyl alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **8** as white crystals in 70% yield. Mp =210-212°C ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 7.80 (d, 2H, ArH, J=4 Hz), 7.22 (d, 2H, ArH J=4 Hz), 4.99 (s, 1H, ArCH₂). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 139.03, 133.86, 132.02, 96.09, 77.16. GC t_R = 8.828 min.

O-(3-Chlorobenzyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (**9**). Synthesized from the respective alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **9** as white crystals in 50% yield. Mp =144-148°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 7.49 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.45-7.35 (m, 1H, ArH), 5.04 (s, 2H, ArCH₂). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 139.49, 135.59, 131.42, 130.55, 130.12, 128.56, 77.02. GC t_R = 6.251 min.

O-(3-Bromobenzyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (**10**). Synthesized from 3-bromobenzenyl alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **10** as white crystals in 98% yield. Mp=210-211°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 7.66-7.56 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.43 (d, 1H, ArH, J=8 Hz), 7.37 (t, 1H, ArCH, J=8 Hz), 5.03 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 136.78, 133.62, 133.14, 131.71, 129.02, 123.59, 77.03. Anal. calcd. for C₇H₉ClBrNO: C=35.25; H=3.80; N=5.87. Found: C=35.37%, H = 3.52%, N =5.76%.

O-(3-Iodobenzyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (**11**). Synthesized from the respective alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **11** as white crystals in 41% yield. Mp=209-214°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 7.82-7.77 (m, 2H, ArH), δ 7.44 (d, 1H, ArH , J=8 Hz), 7.21 (t, 1H, ArH, J=8 Hz), 4.98 (s, 2H, ArCH₂). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 139.79, 139.27, 136.74, 131.77, 129.62, 95.02, 77.04. GC t_R =8.732 min.

O-(3-Trifluoromethylbenzyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (**12**). Synthesized from 3-trifluoromethylbenzyl alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **12** as white crystals in 88%

yield. Mp=164-165°C ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 7.77-7.72 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.65 (t, 1H, ArH, $J=8$ Hz), 5.14 (s, 2H, ArCH_2). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 134.40, 132.62, 130.7 (q, $J_{\text{C-F}}=40$ Hz), 129.50, 125.92 (q, $J_{\text{C-F}}=4$ Hz), 125.51 (q, $J_{\text{C-F}}=4$ Hz), 123.99 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}=270$ Hz), 75.71. GC $t_{\text{R}} = 4.170$ min.

O-(2-Iodobenzyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (**13**). Synthesized from the respective alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **13** as white crystals in 43% yield. Mp=119-120°C. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 7.95 (d, 1, ArH, $J=8$ Hz), 7.51-7.44 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.16 (t, 1H, ArH, $J=8$ Hz), 5.14 (s, 1H, ArCH_2). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 141.12, 137.07, 132.35, 132.01, 129.83, 100.05, 81.35. Anal. calcd. for $\text{C}_7\text{H}_9\text{ClINO}\cdot\text{H}_2\text{O}$: C, 27.70; H, 3.65; N, 4.61. Found: C=27.84, H=3.66, N=4.48.

O-(2-Chlorobenzyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (**14**). Synthesized from the respective alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **14** as white crystals in 75% yield. Mp=148-150°C. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 7.57 (d, 1H, ArH, $J=8$ Hz), 7.48-7.35 (m, 3H, ArH), 5.22 (s, 2H, ArH). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 135.63, 132.68, 132.21, 131.89, 130.74, 128.37, 74.92. Anal. calcd. for $\text{C}_7\text{H}_9\text{Cl}_2\text{NO}$: C, 43.33; H, 4.67; N, 7.22. Found: C=43.01, H=4.72, N=7.03.

O-(4-Fluorobenzyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (**15**). Synthesized from 4-fluorobenzyl alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **15** as white crystals in 85% yield. Mp=219-220°C. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 7.49 (t, 2H, ArH, $J=4$ Hz) 7.16 (t, 2H, ArH, $J=4$ Hz), 5.02 (s, 2H, ArCH_2). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 164.90 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}=240$ Hz), 132.87 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}=9$ Hz), 130.53 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}=3$ Hz), 116.78 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}=22$ Hz), 77.31. Anal. calcd. for $\text{C}_7\text{H}_9\text{ClFNO}$: C, 47.34; H, 5.11; N, 7.89. Found: C=47.43, H=4.94, N=7.81.

O-(3-Fluorobenzyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (**16**). Synthesized from 3-fluorobenzyl alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **16** as white crystals in 81% yield. Mp=245°C (decomp). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 7.45 (t, 1H, ArH, $J=8$ Hz) 7.28-7.15 (m, 3H, ArH), 5.07 (s, 2H, ArCH_2). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 164.22 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}=240$ Hz), 136.91 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}=8$ Hz), 131.80 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}=8$ Hz),

126.04 (d, $J_{C-F}=3$ Hz), 117.31 (d, $J_{C-F}=21$ Hz), 116.85 (d, $J_{C-F}=22$ Hz), 77.12 (d, $J_{C-F}=2$ Hz). GC t_R = 3.981 min.

O-(4-Chlorobenzyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (**17**). Synthesized from 4-chlorobenzyl alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **17** as white crystals in 70% yield. Mp=226-228.5°C. 1H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 7.44 (br s, 4H, ArH), 5.05 (s, 2H, ArCH₂). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 136.54, 133.11, 132.05, 130.01, 77.13. Anal. calcd. for C₇H₉Cl₂NO: C=43.44; H=4.67; N=7.22 .Found: C=43.32%, H =4.59%, N =7.15%.

O-(2-Fluorobenzyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (**18**). Synthesized from the respective alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **18** as white crystals in 90% yield. Mp=182-184°C. 1H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 7.58-7.45 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.27-7.19 (m, 2H, ArH), 5.17 (s, 2H, ArCH₂). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 162.93 (d, $J_{C-F}=247$ Hz), 133.26 (d, $J_{C-F}=8$ Hz), 133.19 (d, $J_{C-F}=4$ Hz), 125.82 (d, $J_{C-F}=3$ Hz), 121.48 (d, $J_{C-F}=14$ Hz), 116.71 Hz (d, $J_{C-F}=21$ Hz), 71.73 (d, $J_{C-F}=4$ Hz). GC t_R = 4.067 min.

O-(4-Bromobenzyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (**19**). Synthesized from 4-bromobenzyl alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **19** as white crystals in 92% yield. Mp=232-236°C. 1H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 7.58 (d, 2H, ArH, $J=4$ Hz), 7.37 (d, 2H, ArH, $J=4$ Hz), 5.02 (s, 2H, ArCH₂). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 133.60, 133.11, 132.29, 124.70, 77.23. GC t_R =7.383 min.

O-(2-Bromobenzyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (**20**). Synthesized from 2-bromobenzyl alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **20** as white crystals in 87% yield. Mp=95-98°C. 1H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 7.70 (dd, 1H, ArH, $J=4$, 1 Hz), 7.54 (dd, 1H, ArH, $J=4$, 1 Hz), 7.46 (dt, 1H, ArH, $J=7$, 1 Hz), 7.37 (dt, 1H, ArH, $J=7$, 1 Hz), 5.20 (s, 2H, ArCH₂). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 134.38, 133.83, 132.71, 132.56, 129.19, 125.47, 77.32. Anal. calcd. for C₇H₉ClBrNO C=35.25; H=3.80; N=5.87. Found: C=35.14%, H = 3.57%, N =5.86%.

O-(2-Trifluoromethylbenzyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (**21**). Synthesized from 2-trifluoromethylbenzyl alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **21** as white crystals in 78%

yield. Mp=115-119°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 7.81 (d, 1H, ArH, J=8 Hz), 7.76 -7.66 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.63 (t, 1H, ArH, J=8 Hz), 5.26 (s, 2H, ArCH₂). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 133.89, 132.94, 132.41, 131.13, 130.10 (q, J_{C-F} 40 Hz), 127.50 (q, J_{C-F}=6 Hz), 125.53 (d, J_{C-F}=271 Hz), 74.25. Anal. calcd. for C₈H₉ClF₃NOC=42.22; H=3.99; N=6.15. Found: C=42.10%, H 4.15%, N =6.05%.

O-[(3-Methylphenyl)-methyl]-hydroxylamine hydrochloride (22). Synthesized from 3-methyl benzenemethanol according to the general procedure to afford **22** as white crystals in 94% yield. Mp =187-188.5°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 7.33-7.22 (m, 4H, ArH), 5.01 (s, 2H, ArCH₂), 2.37 (s, 3H, ArCH₃). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 139.84, 134.12, 131.30, 131.02, 129.79, 127.49, 78.17, 21.23. Anal. calcd. for C₈H₁₂ClFNO C=55.34; H=6.97; N=8.07. Found: C=55.47%, H = 7.22%, N =8.06%.

O-(4-Nitrobenzyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (23). Synthesized from the respective alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **23** as off-white crystals in 54% yield. Mp =199-199.5°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 8.29 (d, 2H, ArH, J=12 Hz), 7.70 (d, 2H, ArH, J=12 Hz), 5.19 (s, ArCH₂, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 149.92, 141.55, 130.98, 124.90, 76.56. Anal. calcd. for C₇H₉ClN₂O₃:C=41.09; H=4.43; N=13.69. Found: C=41.20%, H =4.42%, N =13.42%.

O-(2-Methoxybenzyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (24). Synthesized from respective alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **24** as white crystals in 64% yield. Mp=102-104°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 7.42 (t, 1H, ArH, J=8 Hz), 7.37 (d, 1H, ArH, J=4 Hz), 7.06 (d, 1H, ArH, J=8 Hz), 6.99 (t, 1H, ArH, J=8 Hz), 5.09 (s, 2H, ArCH₂), 3.88 (s, 3H, CH₃). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 159.72, 132.67, 122.43, 121.75, 112.14, 73.34, 56.09. GC *t*_R = 6.953 min.

O-(4-Trifluoromethylbenzyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (25). Synthesized from the respective alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **25** as white crystals in 99% yield. Mp= 179-181°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 7.77 (d, 2H, ArH, J=8 Hz), 7.67 (d, 2H, ArH, J=8 Hz), 5.16 (s, 2H, ArCH₂). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 138.81, 132.52 (d, J_{C-F}=32 Hz), 130.73, 126.84 (q, J_{C-F}=4 Hz),

124.09, 77.07. Anal. calcd. for $C_8H_9ClF_3NO$: C=42.22; H=3.99; N=6.15 Found: C=41.98%, H = 3.89%, N =6.34%.

O-(3-Methoxybenzyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (**26**). Synthesized from 3-methoxybenzenyl alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **26** as white crystals in 98% yield. Mp=126-127.5°C. 1H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 7.34 (t, 1H, ArH, J=8 Hz), 7.03-6.97 (m, 3H, ArH), 5.04 (s, 2H, ArCH₂), 3.81 (s, 3H, CH₃OAr). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 161.44, 135.64, 130.99, 122.46, 116.15, 116.74, 78.00, 55/76. Anal. calcd. for $C_8H_{12}ClNO_2$. C=50.67; H=6.38; N=7.39. Found: C=50.52%, H =6.07%, N =7.36%.

O-(4-Phenylbenzyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (**27**). Synthesized from the respective alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **27** as white crystals in 75% yield. Mp=187-188°C. 1H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 7.71 (d, 2H, ArH, J=8 Hz), 7.62 (d, 2H, ArH, J=8 Hz), 7.52 (d, 2H, ArH, J=8 Hz), 7.44 (t, 2H, ArH, J=4 Hz), 7.37 (t, 1H, ArH, J=4 Hz), 5.07 (s, 2H, ArCH₂). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 143.93, 141.55, 133.21, 131.05, 129.98, 128.83, 128.03, 127.94, 77.98. GC t_R = 12.779 min.

O-(4-Isopropylbenzyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (**28**). Synthesized from the respective alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **28** as white crystals in 89%yield. Mp=159-160°C. 1H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 7.39 (d, 2H, ArH, J=8 Hz), 7.33 (d, 2H, ArH, J=8 Hz), 5.03 (s, 2H, ArCH₂), 2.99-2.92 (m, 1H, (CH₃)₂CHAr), 1.27 (d, 6H, J=8 Hz). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 150.55, 130.30, 129.36, 126.60, 76.69, 33.86, 22.89. Anal. calcd. for $C_{10}H_{16}ClNO$ C=59.55; H=8.00; N=6.94. Found: C=59.46%, H = 7.77%, N =7.02%.

O-(2-Hydroxybenzyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (**29**). Synthesized from the respective alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **29** as white crystals in 79% yield. Mp=134-135°C. 1H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD) 7.35-7.25, (m, 2H, ArH) 6.93-6.85 (m, 2H, ArH), 5.10 (s, 2H, ArCH₂). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 157.79, 132.82, 132.37, 120.86, 120.78, 116.46, 73.63. GC t_R = 7.582 min.

O-(4-Methoxybenzyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (**30**). Synthesized from 4-methoxy benzyl alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **30** as white crystals in 87% yield. Mp=125-127°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 7.39 (d, 2H, ArH, J=8 Hz), 6.99 (d, 2H, ArH, J=8 Hz), 4.98 (s, 2H, ArCH₂), 3.83 (s, 3H, ArOCH₃). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 162.17, 135.55, 132.21, 126.00, 124.20, 115.13, 77.75, 55.64. Anal. calcd. for C₈H₁₂ClNO₂: C=50.67; H=6.38; N=7.39. Found: C=50.84%, H = 6.53%, N =7.39%.

O-(4-Hydroxybenzyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (**31**). Synthesized from 4-hydroxybenzyl alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **31** as white crystals in 44% yield. Mp=189-191°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 7.29 (d, 2H, ArH, J=8 Hz), 6.85 (d, 2H, ArH, J=8 Hz), 4.93 (s, 2H, ArCH₂). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 160.14, 132.50, 124.86, 116.63, 78.11. HPLC *t*_R = 0.475 min.

O-(2,3-Dichlorobenzyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (**32**). Synthesized from 2,3-dichlorobenzyl alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **32** as white crystals in 48% yield. Mp=184.5-185.5°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 7.64 (dd, 1H, ArH, J=8, 1 Hz), 7.51 (dd, 2H, ArH, J=8, 1 Hz), 7.39 (t, 1H, ArH, J=8 Hz), 5.24 (s, 2H, ArCH₂). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 134.63, 134.61, 133.84, 132.88, 130.96, 129.32, 75.38. GC *t*_R = 8.752 min.

O-(4-Chloro-3-trifluoromethyl)benzyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (**33**). Synthesized from the respective alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **33** (12% yield) as white crystals.). Mp=120-122°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 7.86 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.69 (2, 2H, ArH), 5.10 (s, 2H, ArCH₂). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 135.33, 134.30 (d, J_{C-F}=3 Hz), 133.35, 129.54 (q, J_{C-F}=30 Hz), 129.49, 124.13 (d, J_{C-F}=271 Hz), 76.39. Anal. calcd. for C₈H₈Cl₂F₃NO·0.25 HCl: C=35.43; H=3.08; N=5.17. Found: C=35.11%, H =2.81%, N =5.11%.

O-(2-Fluoro-5-Trifluoromethylbenzyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (**34**). Synthesized from the respective alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **34** as white crystals in 40% yield. 174.5-175°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 7.89-7.83 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.42 (t, 1H, ArH, J=8 Hz), 5.22 (d, 2H, ArCH₂, ⁴J_{C-F}=12 Hz). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 164.70 (d, J_{C-F}=254 Hz), 130.56, 130.50 (d, J_{C-}

$J_{\text{C-F}}=15$ Hz), 128.42, 125.02 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}=269$ Hz), 123.03 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}=16$ Hz), 117.95 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}=22$ Hz), 70.95 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}=4$ Hz). Anal. calcd. for $\text{C}_8\text{H}_8\text{ClF}_4\text{NO}\cdot 0.25$ HCl: C=37.72, H=3.27, N=5.50. Found: C=37.61%, H=3.05%, N=5.36%.

O-(2,4-Dichlorobenzyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (**35**). Synthesized from 2,4-dichloro benzyl alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **35** as white crystals in 69% yield. Mp=184.5-185.5°C. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 7.57-7.54 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.44-7.41 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.40 (dd, 1H, ArH, $J=2.0$ Hz, 8.2 Hz), 5.19 (s, 2H, ArCH_2). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 137.50, 136.74, 133.94, 131.07, 130.71, 128.88, 74.40. Anal. calcd. for $\text{C}_7\text{H}_8\text{Cl}_3\text{NO}$ C=36.80; H=3.53; N=6.13. Found: C=36.89%, H=3.50%, N=5.88%.

O-(2-Chloro,4-iodobenzyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (**36**). Synthesized from the respective alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **36** as white crystals in 80% yield. Mp=117-119°C. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 7.91 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.78 (d, 1H, ArH, $J=8$ Hz), 7.31 (d, 1H, ArH, $J=8$ Hz), 5.17 (s, 2H, ArCH_2). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 139.26, 137.91, 136.43, 133.89, 131.89, 96.49, 74.51. Anal. calcd. for $\text{C}_7\text{H}_8\text{Cl}_2\text{INO}$: C=26.28; H=2.52; N=4.38. Found: C=26.62%, H=2.15%, N=4.34%.

O-(3,5-Dichlorobenzyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (**37**). Synthesized from respective alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **37** as white crystals in 43% yield. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 7.52 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.45 (d, 2H, ArH), 5.05 (s, 2H, ArCH_2). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 138.30, 136.58, 130.41, 128.66, 76.35. GC $t_{\text{R}}=8.248$ min.

O-(2-Fluoro, 4-trifluoromethylbenzyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (**38**). Synthesized from 2-fluoro-4-trifluoromethyl benzyl alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **38** as white crystals in 67% yield. Mp=228-231°C. ^1H NMR (CD_3OD) δ 7.75 (t, 1H, ArH, $J=8$ Hz), 7.61 (t, 2H, ArH, $J=8$ Hz), 5.23 (s, 2H, ArCH_2). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 162.41 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}=250$ Hz), 134.84 (dd, $J_{\text{C-F}}=42$, 8 Hz), 133.79 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}=4$ Hz), 126.00 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}=14$ Hz), 124.46 (d, $J_{\text{C-F}}=270$ Hz), 122.67 (t, $J_{\text{C-F}}=4$ Hz),

114.20 (dq, $J_{C-F}=25$, 4 Hz), 70.94 (d, $J_{C-F}=3$ Hz). Anal. calcd. for $C_8H_8ClF_4NO$: C=39.12; H=3.28; N=5.70. Found: C=39.06%, H=3.02%, N=5.66%.

O-(2,4-(Difluorobenzyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (**39**). Synthesized from the respective alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **39** as white crystals in 30% yield. Mp=155-157°C. 1H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 7.54 (q, 1H, ArH, $J=4$ Hz), 7.10-7.03 (m, 2H, ArH), 5.12 (s, 2H, ArCH₂). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 165.63 (d, $J_{C-F}=249$ Hz), 163.23 (d, $J_{C-F}=231$ Hz), 134.70 (d, $J_{C-F}=5$ Hz), 117.83, 112.92 (d, $J_{C-F}=4$ Hz), 105.16 (t, $J_{C-F}=26$ Hz), 71.12 (d, $J_{C-F}=4$ Hz). Anal. calcd. for $C_7H_8ClF_2NO$: C=42.99; H=4.12; N=7.16. Found: C=43.15%, H=3.74%, N=6.89%.

O-(2,5-Dimethoxybenzyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (**40**). Synthesized from 2,5-dimethoxybenzyl alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **40** as white crystals in 90% yield. Mp=115-120°C. 1H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 6.99-6.95 (m, 3H, ArH), 5.05 (s, 2H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.76 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 155.11, 153.71, 123.23, 118.26, 116.95, 113.27, 73.22, 56.56, 56.20. Anal. calcd. for $C_9H_{14}Cl_3NO_3$: C=49.21; H=6.42; N=6.38. Found: C=49.14%, H=6.76%, N=5.94%.

O-(3,4-Dichlorobenzyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (**41**). Synthesized from 3,4-dichlorobenzyl alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **41** as white crystals in 48% yield. Mp=193.5-195.5°C. 1H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 7.64 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.60 (d, 1H, ArH, $J=8$ Hz), 7.39 (dd, 1H, ArH, $J=8$, 1 Hz), 5.06 (s, 2H, ArCH₂). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 135.13, 134.57, 133.78, 132.28, 132.11, 130.06, 76.42. Anal. calcd. for $C_7H_8Cl_3NO$: C=36.80; H=3.53; N=6.13. Found: C=36.40%, H=3.08%, N=6.10%.

O-(2-Trifluoromethyl,4-fluorobenzyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (**42**). Synthesized from respective alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **42** as white crystals in 61% yield. Mp=118-119°C. 1H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 7.59 (dd, 1H, ArH, $J=8$, 1 Hz), δ 7.51 (dd, 1H, ArH, $J=8$, 1 Hz), 7.47 (dt, 1H, ArH, $J=4$, 1 Hz), 5.22 (s, 2H, ArCH₂). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 164.21 (d, $J_{C-F}=249$ Hz), 135.99 (d, $J_{C-F}=8$ Hz), 132.41 (q, $J_{C-F}=32$ Hz), 128.62, 124.57 (d, $J_{C-F}=272$ Hz), 120.65 (d, $J_{C-F}=21$ Hz), 115.35 (m), 73.55 (d, $J_{C-F}=2$ Hz). GC t_R =3.903 min.

O-(3,5-Difluorobenzyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (**43**). Synthesized from 3,5-difluorobenzyl alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **43** as white crystals in 92% yield. Mp=200.5-201°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 7.10 (d, 2H, ArH, J=4 Hz), 7.03 (t, ArH, J=8 Hz), 5.09 (s, 2H, ArCH₂). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 164.66 (dd, J_{C-F}=247, 13 Hz), 138.65 (t, J_{C-F}=9 Hz), 112.89 (dd, J_{C-F}=12, 7 Hz), 105.57 (t, J_{C-F}=25 Hz), 76.45. GC t_R=3.717 min.

O-(3,5-Dibromobenzyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (**44**). Synthesized from 3,5-dibromo benzyl alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **44** as white crystals in 79%yield. Mp=197-200°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 7.79 (t, 1H, ArH, J=1 Hz), 7.62 (d, 2H, ArH, J=1 Hz), 5.03 (s, 2H, ArCH₂). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 138.71, 135.95, 132.02, 124.22, 76.16. GC t_R = 10.513 min.

O-(3,5-Bis(trifluoromethyl-benzyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (**45**). Synthesized from 3,5-(bis)trifluoromethyl benzyl alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **45** as white crystals in 93% yield. Mp-195-197°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 8.08 (s, 2H, ArH), 8.04 (s, 1H, ArH), 5.26 (s, 2H, ArCH₂). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 137.90, 133.22 (q, J_{C-F}=33 Hz), 130.60 (d, J_{C-F}=3 Hz), 124.59 (d, J_{C-F}=271 Hz), 124.13 (t, J_{C-F}=3 Hz), 76.14. Anal. calcd. for C₉H₈ClF₆NO C=36.57; H=2.73; N=4.74. Found: C=36.55%, H = 2.49%, N =4.64%.

O-(2-Hydroxy-3-methoxybenzyl)hydroxylamine hydrochloride (**46**). Synthesized from 2-hydroxy-3-methoxybenzyl alcohol according to the general procedure to afford **46** as white crystals in 45%yield. Mp=176-178°C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 7.03 (d, 1H, ArH, J=8 Hz), 6.91-6.82 (m, 2H, ArH), 5.08 (s, 2H, ArCH₂), 3.87 (s, 3H, ArOCH₃). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 149.13, 147.21, 124.15, 120.61, 120.56, 113.91, 73.28, 56.56. Anal. Calcd. for C₈H₁₂ClNO₃ C=46.73; H=5.88; N=6.81. Found: C=46.38%, H = 5.71%, N =6.72%.

Biochemical assays. Recombinant human IDO1 was expressed and purified as described.⁵⁰ Inhibition assays to determine IC₅₀ and K_i values were performed in a 96-well microtiter plate as described by Littlejohn et.al.⁵⁰ with some modification. Under these assay conditions, we have previously determined that the recombinant hIDO1 follows Michaelis-Menten kinetics⁵¹. Briefly, the reaction mixture

contained 50 mM potassium phosphate buffer (pH 6.5), 40 mM ascorbic acid, 400 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ catalase, 20 μM methylene blue and ~ 27 nM purified recombinant IDO1 per reaction. The reaction mixture was added to the substrate, L-tryptophan (L-Trp), and the inhibitor. For IC_{50} determinations, inhibitor solutions were made fresh and serially diluted and the L-Trp substrate was tested at 100 μM ($K_m=80$ μM). For K_i determinations, the assay was set up similarly except that serial dilutions of inhibitors were matrixed with serial dilutions of L-Trp substrate. The reaction was carried out at 37°C for 60 min and stopped by the addition of 30% (w/v) trichloroacetic acid. The plate was then incubated at 65 °C for 15 min to convert N-formylkynurenine to kynurenine and centrifuged at 1250 g for 10 min. Lastly, 100 μl supernatant from each well was transferred to a new 96 well plate and mixed at equal volume with 2% (w/v) p-dimethylamino-benzaldehyde (Ehrlich's reagent) in acetic acid. The yellow color generated from the reaction with kynurenine was measured at 490 nm using a Synergy HT microtiter plate reader (Bio-Tek, Winooski, VT). As an initial compound screen, assessments of IC_{50} values were performed as single point dilution series. The most potent compounds were subsequently retested two or more times with the results reported as averages. The data were analyzed using Graph Pad Prism 4 software (Graph Pad Software Inc., San Diego, CA) and the Enzyme Kinetics module in SigmaPlot version 10 (Systat Software Inc, San Jose, CA). (Note that a separate experiment analyzing the possible competition between kynurenine and four different O-alkylhydroxylamine inhibitors for p-dimethylaminobenzaldehyde showed no impact on the visible absorbance reading from the presence of any one of the four inhibitors.)

Spectroscopic measurements. The UV-Vis spectra were obtained at room temperature using a UV2401 spectrophotometer (Shimadzu Scientific Instruments, Inc., Columbia, MD) with a slit width of 1 nm in a 1 cm path-length quartz cuvette. The proteins (5 μM) were buffered with a 100 mM pH of 7.4 Tris buffer. The deoxy samples were prepared by injecting ~ 10 -fold excess sodium dithionite into the protein samples pre-purged with nitrogen gas with a gas-tight syringe. The CO adducts were prepared by adding 200 μl CO gas (1 atmosphere) into the deoxy samples.

Cell-based IDO1 inhibition and cytotoxicity assays. Compounds were evaluated for inhibitory activity against human *IDO1* expressed endogenously in HeLa cells and exogenously in T-Rex cells. HeLa cells were seeded in a 96 well plate at a density of 10,000 cells per well in 100 μ L DMEM + 10% fetal bovine serum + 1% Penicillin-Streptomycin and *IDO1* expression was induced by the addition of IFN γ to a final concentration of 100 ng/mL. T-Rex cells containing a *tet*-regulated human *IDO1* cDNA were seeded in a 96-well plate at a density of 10,000 cells per well in 100 μ L of DMEM + 10% FBS + 1% Penicillin-Streptomycin and *IDO1* expression was induced by the addition of 100 μ L of media containing 20 ng/mL doxycycline. With both assays, IDO1 induction was allowed to proceed for 24 hours after which the media was discarded, the wells rinsed once, and serial dilutions of compound in 200 μ L of DMEM +10% FBS with the final concentration of tryptophan adjusted to 100 μ M. Following incubation at 37 °C for an additional 24 hrs, the assay was stopped by the addition of 50 μ L of 50% (w/v) TCA to each well, and the cells were fixed by incubating for 1 hr at 4 °C.

Assessment of IDO1 activity. Compound IC₅₀ values were assessed from single point dilution series with the most potent compounds subsequently retested two or more times and the results reported as averages. Following the TCA fixation step, the supernatants were transferred to a round-bottomed 96-well plate and incubated at 65 °C for 15 min. The plates were then centrifuged at 1250 x g for 10 min, and 100 μ L of clarified supernatant was transferred to a new flat-bottomed 96-well plate and mixed at equal volume with 2% (w/v) p-dimethylaminobenzaldehyde in acetic acid. The yellow reaction was measured at 490 nm using a Synergy HT microtiter plate reader (Bio-Tek, Winooski, VT). Graphs of inhibition curves with IC₅₀ values were generated using Prism v.5.0 (GraphPad Software, Inc.).

Assessment of cell viability. The single point dilution series used to determine IC₅₀ values were also evaluated for cell viability. The TCA-fixed cells remaining in the 96-well plate following transfer of the media were processed essentially as described⁵². Fixed cells were washed four times in tap water, blotted, air-dried, and treated for 15 min at room temperature with 100 μ L of 0.4% (w/v) sulfarhodamine B (SRB) (Sigma-Aldrich, St. Louis, MO) prepared in 1% acetic acid. Wells were then

rinsed four times in 1% acetic acid, air-dried, and developed by adding 200 μ L of 10 mM unbuffered Tris-HCl and incubating for 15 min at room temperature with gentle shaking. Staining intensity, proportional to cell number, was determined by reading the absorbance at 570 nm on a plate reader. Graphs of cell viability curves were generated using Prism v.5.0 (GraphPad Software, Inc.).

Docking calculations. Small molecules were constructed in MOE V2011.1 (Chemical Computing Group, Inc.) and ionized and hydrogens added using MOE's WashMDB function. The small molecule conformation was minimized to a gradient of 0.01 with the MMFF94x^{53,54} using a distance-dependent dielectric constant of 1. The crystal structure of IDO1 bound with 4-phenylimidazole was used for docking calculations⁴⁴. The 2-[*N*-cyclohexylamino]ethanesulfonic acid and 4-phenyl-1-imidazole ligands were removed from the active site docking, hydrogen atoms were added and tautomeric states and orientations of Asn, Gln, His residues were determined with Molprobit^{55,56}. Hydrogens were then added to crystallographic waters using MOE. The Amber99⁵⁷ force field in MOE was used, and iron was parameterized in the Fe⁺³ state. Dioxygen was not added to the iron. All hydrogens were minimized to an rms gradient of 0.01, holding the remaining heavy atoms fixed. A stepwise minimization followed for all atoms using a quadratic force constant (100 kcal-mole/ \AA) to tether the atoms to their starting geometries; for each subsequent minimization, the force constant was reduced by a half until reached 0.01 and was then followed by a cycle of minimization without applying any constraints. GOLD version 5.1 (Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre) was used with coordination binding of the hydroxylamine nitrogen to the Fe⁺³ atom of the heme. Chemscore parameters, adapted for metal–ligand interactions, were used for scoring⁵⁸. Fifty genetic algorithm (GA) docking runs were performed with the initial_virtual_pt_match_max = 2.5, all other parameters were set as defaults.

Notes

Conflict of interest: W.P.M., J.B.D., A.J.M. and G.C.P. declare a conflict of interest due to their various relationships with New Link Genetics Corporation, which has licensed IDO1-related intellectual property from the Lankenau Institute for Medical Research and Georgia Regents University. W.P.M.,

J.B.D. and A.J.M. are inventors and shareholders in the company. G.C.P. is an inventor and shareholder who has received grant support and compensation from the company in his role as a scientific advisor.

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SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

Full experimental details for the synthesis of alcohols that were not commercially available are available. Additional cell-based inhibition and viability assays are also presented. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at ...

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